Love for the Lord Is Proven by Keeping His Commandments

Looking at His ways and His teachings, we are in fact looking at the beauty of Christ, who is the image of God. His commandments should be a delight to us because they represent Him. (I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved. Psalms 119:47; Thy commandments are my delight. Psalms 119:143)

Therefore, the Lord Jesus says: “If ye love me, keep my commandments...” (John 14:15) — meaning that whoever loves Me also loves My commandments and finds delight in them, because My commandments express My character; they show what I am like.

God does not call us to appreciate Him only because He offers us an eternal Kingdom with streets of gold, or because He saves us from hell. These things alone will not cause us to fall in love with Him or to desire to follow Him in order to become like Him.

He calls us not only to appreciate what He has done for us, but to become And I, if I be lifted like Him. He calls us to fall in love with up from the earth, Him, and for this purpose, He reveals to us will draw all men the beauty of His perfect character. (And I, unto Me. if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. John 12:32)

Therefore, in His love for the crown of His creation, God uses His messengers to speak to us about the Lord Jesus, to show us the traits of His heart. He uses His disciples to describe to us the image of God, to reveal the beauty of His heart, and to draw us to Himself through His perfect beauty.

No one can be drawn to His beauty if they have not heard about Him, if they do not see the traits of His heart, if they do not know His ways and His nature. (And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher. Romans 10:14; No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him. John 6:44)

If we were called only to repentance in order to avoid hell and walk on streets of gold, without being shown the beauty of the Lord’s heart—if we were not told that His purpose is for us to bear His character traits—then we must be careful, because those who brought us such a message delivered a false, incomplete gospel.

They were not sent by God. If we received such a gospel, we were deceived by Satan.

Let us honestly ask ourselves: What kind of gospel was brought to us? Were there people who preached only one message—that if we do not repent, we will suffer

eternal hell? Were we taught to appreciate Him and be thankful only for what He did for us on the cross?

Or were there messengers of God who also revealed to us the beauty of the Lord's heart? Was I drawn to His character traits? Did love awaken in us, and did we begin to desire to have the same beautiful traits that He has?

God draws us with all His beauty and will cause all the beauty of His heart to pass before us. Just as He showed Moses the beauty of His heart, so He will show it to us. (I will make all my goodness pass before thee. Exodus 33:19) He does this so that we may fall in love with the traits of His heart, so that love may be awakened in us.

David's fervent desire (which should be the desire of every lover of the Lord) was to dwell all his life in the house of the Lord, to behold the beauty of the Lord. (One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord. Psalms 27:4)

If we come to God out of fear of hell, we have not experienced the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the The Gospel of image of God. (But if our gospel be hid, it Christ is the is hid to them that are lost: In whom the image of God! god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. 2 Corinthians 4:3-4)

If we are drawn by the beauty of the Lord Jesus' character traits and we admire them, then we will begin to desire them as well—this is the starting point. (I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, if ye find my beloved, that ye tell him, that I am sick of love. Song of Solomon 5:8)

No one can truly admire and love Him with all their heart out of fear of eternal punishment. That love can only be awakened if one is drawn by the radiance of the Lord, by the radiance of His Word. Only then is the fervent desire to be like Him stirred within us. Only in this way can the purpose for which we were created be fulfilled: to be like the Lord Jesus, our Bridegroom.

If we have not begun here—if we are not drawn by the beauty of His heart, if His commandments and His ways are not our delight—then the new life has not yet begun. (No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him. John 6:44)

This post is an excerpt from the booklet "The New Birth", which you can read in full, free of charge. More studies and resources for spiritual awakening are available at https://www.unmodifiedword.com.